

# NMSU Faculty Senate Chair Report

Report for October/November 2021, by Julia Parra

## University Administrative Council (UAC) meetings

See the [University Administrative Council](#) site for UAC information and minutes that have much more information. A few notes:

### November Meeting

- AVP of HR Gena Jones noted the changes being made in the Staff Performance Evaluation process. This was done with Employee Council consult and will be communicated in the spring.
- Ricardo Rel of Government Relations noted that the Council of University Presidents, The New Mexico Association of Community Colleges, and the independent Community Colleges are all on same page for requests at legislative session:
  - The Higher Education Department (HED) released their recommendations on November 1, 2021 and while moving in the right direction it was noted that the two to keep an eye on are from the Legislative Finance Committee and the Executive Branch which will come out in early January;
  - The Higher Education Associations are requesting an I&G increase of at least 5% to restore cuts from the special session and good news is that HED did recommend at least 3% new money as we move forward, (reminder that for Main Campus this is 1.2 million in I&G for every 1% for perspective), with 5% would be about 6 million in new funding;
  - In addition, seeking 7% compensation increase for faculty and staff, being pushed to LFC and, HED does not make these recommendations;
  - Seeking non-recurring request of 15 million for wrap-around funding, i.e. will really help out Renay Scott's area, and HED did recommend 10 million;
  - Other non-recurring includes 1) research related 40 million as match for existing grants and equipment, 2) 10 million from Higher Education Endowment Fund that will help with private fund raising in addition to research closing fund, HED is recommend 5 million for that item;
  - Addressed Luis Campos that other item is critical infrastructure, both deferred maintenance and information technology, HED only requested 38.5 million for this, however, additional 6 million is being requested through a different path related to IT and emergency situations;
  - Also requesting 50 million non-recurring, 10 million was HED recommended;
  - Big item is financial aid, are supporting increase particularly for Lottery Scholarship, 25 million in general fund which would help keep us at 100% in tuition for the Lottery, in addition requesting funding for the Opportunity Scholarship;
  - Non-IG items, Agricultural did well with 100% of what was requested and the Autism Lab did well;
  - Ricardo noted that he would be posting information to the website as relevant. Early January will have the next report.
- Much more, see the UAC Minutes for details.

### October Meeting

- Policy Revisions (Reminder that at the bottom of ARP pages there is a [link to sharepoint site](#) for review and comment on policy and rule proposals)
  - REV ARP 4.61 - Transfer Credit, reported that this passed via proposition in Faculty Senate. This was the second read and was approved.

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*Thank you for your continued investment in the work of the [NMSU Faculty Senate](#). If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please email Julia Parra at [juparra@nmsu.edu](mailto:juparra@nmsu.edu); or email Jamie Bronstein at [jbronste@nmsu.edu](mailto:jbronste@nmsu.edu).*

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- REV ARP 1.10 - NMSU System Policy Framework, this is the policy work we have noted for some time. This was the second reading and was approved as amended.
- Interim CIO Chris Kielt reported an upcoming change in the single sign on (SSO) strategy and service for MyNMSU. When you go to mynmsu it will change from the quicklaunch URL to portal.nmsu.edu. December 20 is the production launch date. More information to come.
- There is a staff compensation project underway as reported by AVP of HR Gena Jones.
- General Counsel Roy Collins provided a presentation regarding mandating COVID-19 Vaccination including precedents. This may have been included in the related Town Hall.
- Provost Carol Parker noted that three Dean searches are underway, Library, HEST, Business and most of Phase 1 for the faculty compensation adjustments is completed with a [preliminary report available](#) and final report upcoming.
- VP Renay Scott noted that an enrollment management steering committee is being formed to help guide and reform recruitment and retention.
- VP Luis Cifuentes will be highlighting big grants every month, this month was a 5 yr, 2 million dollar grant that is a partnership for STEM, and health.
- Much more, see the UAC Minutes for details.

## Board of Regents Meeting/s

See the [Regent Meetings site for notices, agendas, binders](#). See the [Regent Committees](#) page for membership and charters. A few notes:

- BoR Regular Meeting, September 16, 2021, see [related 820 page Binder](#). The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2021.
- Student Success Meeting, September 30, 2021
  - UPAC was discussed and four programs were reviewed and approved to move forward to full BoR review - 1. Music – Bachelor of Arts 2. Linguistics – Bachelor of Arts 3. Applied Statistics – Doctor of Philosophy 4. Health Equity Sciences – Doctor of Philosophy.
  - Two programs were noted as not receiving approval thus far.
- BoR Special Meeting, October 11, 2021, see related Binder. Of note the four programs from the Student Success meeting were Consent Items on this agenda and thus approved.
- BoR Special Meeting, October 25, 2021. This was originally set to appoint a replacement member to the NMSU Labor Management Board. Instead it was noted that due to unexpected resignations, the NMSU LMR would no longer exist and would be replaced by the New Mexico Public Employee Labor Relations Board.
- BoR Special Meeting, November 5, 2021. Approved an athletic conference change to Conference USA beginning 2023-2024.

## Other items and activities

- **Proposition 04-21/22 Update:** [Proposition 04-21/22: A Resolution of No Confidence for the President and Provost of NMSU](#) has been [routed to Chancellor Arvizu](#). Per RPM 1.70, there are 40 business days for response, that deadline is therefore January 13, 2022. A meeting is scheduled for Chancellor Arvizu and the Senate Leadership Committee on January 12, 2022.
- **Policy Steering Committee (formerly Assignment Advisory Group-AAG):** On November 29, 2021, the Policy Steering Committee (PSC) was officially notified of the committee's reconstitution and is noted that it "will serve a more active role to oversee the development, vetting, recommendation and approval process of NMSU system operational policies (policy)." See the [newly revised ARP 1.10](#) for details relating to this committee and its charge.

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- PSC Composition: *Voting positions (current members)*: Vice Chancellor (Ruth Johnston), Provost (Renay Scott, Acting), Executive Branch Director (Ken Van Winkle), Faculty Senate Chair (Julia Parra) [Appointed by Faculty Senate], Faculty Senate Vice Chair (Jamie Bronstein) [Appointed by Faculty Senate]; *Ex-Officio*: Operational Policy Facilitator (Ermelinda Quintela), Associate provost for academic affairs (Rebecca Campbell), Executive Assistant (Spri Aubrey), Legal Advisor (Lisa Warren).
- **Parra Final Senate Chair Office Hours aka Lunch w/ Julz**: Wednesday, December 8, 12-1:00, [Zoom link](#), email me if you need the link or phone information.

## Next Meetings

*Final Senate Meeting for Fall 2021:*

- December 2, Thursday, 4:00-5:30

*December Meetings:*

- Budget and Resources, December 7, Tuesday, 4:00-5:00
- University Planning, December 8, Wednesday, 4:00-5:00
- Curriculum and Programming, December 7, Tuesday, 4:00-5:00
- Research and Creative Activities, December 7, Tuesday, 4:00-5:00
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, December 8, Wednesday, 4:00-5:00
- Student Success, December 8, Wednesday, 4:00-5:00

*Senate Leadership:*

- December 9, Thursday, 4:00-5:30

Of note, there is a calendar on the [NMSU Faculty Senate](#) site but you need to be logged in to your VPN.

All meetings start at 4pm and will be held virtually in Zoom for the remainder of Fall 2021. Additionally, Faculty Senate Leadership has determined to continue this venue for Spring 2022. The early start time noted is for the use of technology and if possible, join the meeting 5-10 minutes early to test your access.

Senators, when you enter meetings, please open your Participants and Chat boxes, hover by your name in the Participants box and rename to include Senator to the beginning of your name. You can do this with the rename feature next to your name in the Participants box.

Our meetings are open meetings but we use cybersecurity strategies to keep our meetings as safe spaces. Using our full names supports this goal. Thus, anyone coming in with a phone number, please identify yourself and get help editing your name. If needed, hover by your name in the Participants box and rename to include your full name.

We send out the requisite attending information on Mondays or Tuesdays of the week the meeting/s occur. We send this information to the required and invited participants. If you want to attend a meeting, please email me, the relevant committee chair, and/or Gloria Podruchny for the attending information.

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